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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Inventors: | Tilmann B. WALK et al. |) Group Art Unit: To be assigned) Examiner: To be assigned |
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| Title: | MASS SPECTROMETRY METHOD FOR ANALYZING MIXTURES OF SUBSTANCES | |

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Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

a.) Introductory Remarks

Prior to examination of the above-captioned patent application, applicant respectfully requests entry of the following preliminary amendment to the specification and the claims.